

Call for Participants: Creative Critical Pedagogy Seminar

Seminar Chair: James McKinnon (Victoria University of Wellington)

CATR/ACRT Conference 2012, University of Waterloo and Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario (Canadian Association for Theatre Research/Association canadienne de la recherche théâtrale).

26 – 29 May 2012, University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada

On the **CATR Professional Concerns On-line** blog, Glen Nichols claims that “the chasm that has been driven between teaching and research in the academy [has] very serious negative repercussions on higher education.”¹ This project invites proposals that bridge that conceptual chasm and create productive intersections between teaching and research, creativity and criticality. We will focus on developing links between teaching and research – not only by seeking ways to bring our research interests into the classroom, but also by approaching our teaching practice with the critical rigor and reflective process that characterizes our research.

During the period of this project (November 2011 – May 2012), participants will develop, share, and evaluate teaching and learning strategies for post-secondary drama and theatre contexts. We will focus in particular on strategies that *exploit the potential of theatre to stimulate creative and critical thinking* – a goal shared by all drama and theatre academics and educators, from scenographers, to theatre historians, to acting instructors.

Each participant will design and conduct a teaching experiment that addresses this problem in their specific teaching/research context, assess its effectiveness, and report on the results. During the process, we will connect regularly through a blog, to exchange ideas, methods, resources, and results. Participants will be expected to collaborate through and contribute to our blog, and to attend the seminar at the CATR/ACRT Conference in Waterloo, 26-29 May 2012. In the weeks leading up to our meeting in Waterloo, we will invite auditors to read part of our discussion in order to enrich the seminar.

We invite proposals from scholar/educators in all areas of post-secondary drama and theatre. Prospective participants should **send a bio along with a 250-word proposal** to james.mckinnon@vuw.ac.nz by **15 November 2011**. Your proposal should briefly describe how you propose to address the challenge of developing critical and creative thinking in your particular teaching/learning context.

¹ <http://catrprofession.wordpress.com/professional-concern-2/>